



# Committee on Homeland Security

**Democrats**

**Bennie G. Thompson, Ranking  
Member**

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## **CONGRESSMAN THOMPSON RESPONDS TO THE NOMINATION OF A NEW DIRECTOR AT THE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**

**May 9, 2005**, Washington, DC-- Representative Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS), Ranking Member on the House Committee on Homeland Security, issued the following statement on the nomination of Edmund S. Hawley to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

**“While I welcome Mr. Hawley and look forward to working with him, I have to ask how long should we expect Mr. Hawley to stay at the helm of TSA, one of America’s most critical government agencies? Mr. Hawley will be the fourth director to head the TSA in three years. As aviation is a vital sector to our economy, the TSA needs to demonstrate continuity and begin to build a strong leadership in an effort to enhance aviation security in America.**

**Screening equipment at our nation’s airports is not up-to-date. We are living in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and using outdated equipment and technology to aid us in combating terror. I congratulate Mr. Hawley on his selection and look forward to working with him to get airport screeners the resources they need to protect the skies and put controls in place to stop wasteful spending at the agency.”**

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